

# THE GATEWAY

Volume XCIX election special ♦ the official student newspaper at the university of alberta ♦ [www.thegatewayonline.ca](http://www.thegatewayonline.ca) ♦ friday, 6 march, 2009

## CAMPUS DOES THE MATH

Kory Mathewson elected Students' Union President

FULL  
RESULTS  
INSIDE





## THE GATEWAY

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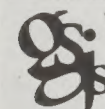
Ad Inquiries 780.492.6700

Email gateway@gateway.ualberta.ca

## editorialstaff

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Mike Kendrick  
eic@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.5168MANAGING EDITOR Conal Pierce  
managing@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6654SENIOR NEWS EDITOR Jennifer Huygen  
news@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.7308DEPUTY NEWS EDITOR Kirsten Goruk  
deputynews@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6664OPINION EDITOR Cody Civiero  
opinion@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6661ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR Jonn Kmech  
entertainment@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.7052SPORTS EDITOR Nick Frost  
sports@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6652PHOTO EDITOR Pete Yee  
photo@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6648DESIGN & PRODUCTION EDITOR Kelsey Tanasiuk  
production@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6663ONLINE EDITOR Lucas Wagner  
online@gateway.ualberta.ca | 248.1509

## businessstaff

BUSINESS MANAGER Asia Szkudlarek  
biz@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6669AD SALES REPRESENTATIVE Patrick Cziolek  
sales@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6700AD/GRAPHIC DESIGNER Lisa Lunn  
design@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6647CIRCULATION PAL Sarah Stead  
CIRCULATION PAL Pete Yee  
circulation@gateway.ualberta.ca


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## colophon

The Gateway is created using Macintosh computers, HP Scanjet flatbed scanners, and a Nikon Super Cool Scan optical film scanner. Adobe InDesign is used for layout. Adobe Illustrator is used for vector images, while Adobe Photoshop is used for raster images. Adobe Acrobat is used to create PDF files which are burned directly to plates to be mounted on the printing press. Text is set in a variety of sizes, styles, and weights of FENICE, Joanna, Kepler and Whitney. The Manitoban is the Gateway's sister paper, and we love her dearly, though "not in that way." The Gateway's game of choice is strategic voting.

## contributors

Sean Steels, Jon Taves, Simon Yackulic, Kyle Gibson, Lauren Stieglitz, Sam Brooks

## Victorious VP candidates celebrate, look forward to realizing campaign promises

GATEWAY NEWS STAFF  
Rockin' the vote since 1910

In the most highly contested vice presidential race, VP (External) hopefuls Aden Murphy and Justin VannPashak were defeated by incumbent Beverly Eastham, who won with 55 per cent support or 2616 votes in the second round.

"[Getting] disqualified, and then getting back in the race—I'm really glad that both Aden and I had a chance to finish the whole thing. Both the candidates have been great," noted the newly re-elected Eastham.

"There's certainly more that I have on my list of goals to accomplish, and I'm happy that I have another year to accomplish it, and I'm looking forward to working with the rest of the executive."

Murphy, who garnered 1030 votes and 21 per cent, gracefully accepted the results and expressed confidence in Eastham.

"I can't be spiteful about the results, as much as I am disappointed with how it turned out. That's the way she goes. Bev will do an awesome job and I'm happy for her," he said.

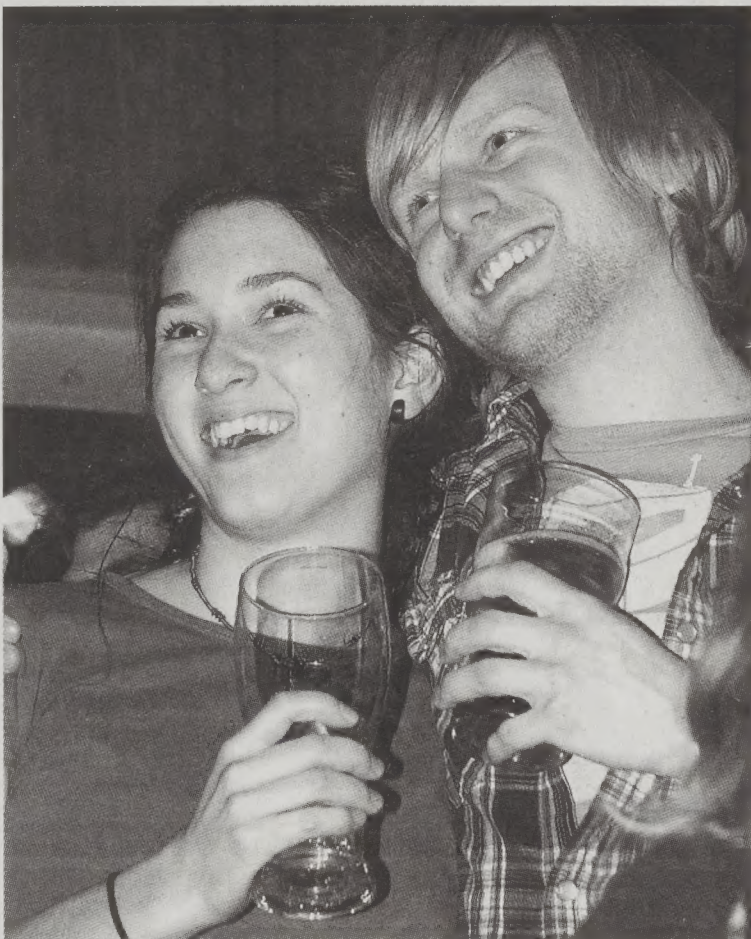
On the other hand, second place candidate Justin VannPashak—who received 24 per cent of the popular vote with 1154 ballot picks—didn't seem surprised by the results, which he felt didn't accurately reflect the actual student population.

"In my opinion, it would have been nice to get more of the average voters out. I think this represents the voting population that has kept the SU uninteresting and a minor part of the average student's life. And it's going to continue to be a minor part of the average student's life as long as they keep making sure that only the SU hacks are voting," he explained following the release of the results.

The race between Nick Dehod and Ian Clarke for VP (Student Life) concluded with Dehod winning the portfolio in a close contest. Dehod's campaign ran largely on a commitment to addressing the issue of student apathy, and his platform pledged to establish an SU "Street Team" to provide better outreach regarding students and their concerns.

"I'm just excited for the energy and the issues we have coming up next year," said Dehod, who received 55 per cent of the votes.

"There's a lot for this portfolio to do. I'm excited that I have the opportunity to work with a fantastic group of people to deal with those things."



LAUREN STIEGLITZ

**OUT WITH THE OLD, IN WITH THE NEW** Newly-elected VPSL Nick Dehod will join Beverly Eastham, Leah Trueblood, and Zach Fentiman in office next year.

"I think we both ran a really good race and it was really close. It was close for a good reason," he added of his opponent.

In the second-round decision, Dehod received support from 2728 students, while Clark trailed narrowly behind with 2188 votes.

**"It would have been nice to get more of the average voters out. I think this represents the voting population that has kept the SU a minor part of the average student's life."**

JUSTIN VANNPASHAK  
VPX CANDIDATE

"I thought this was coming, but I am disappointed," remarked Clarke.

"[Nick] was very well worded, very charismatic. He got me on that part."

In the uncontested race for Vice President (Academic), Leah Trueblood

snagged the title of campus' internal student advocate for the upcoming year. Despite choosing not to print campaign posters, Trueblood was successful at reaching the student body, garnering 4319 votes, which totaled 83 per cent of total votes cast.

"I feel awesome. I'm so excited to represent the students here. It's going to be tremendous. I'm going to work so hard to make this portfolio visible so that this is the most contested portfolio next year, because these are the issues that affect students [...] This matters more than, I think, anything else," Trueblood said, moments after her victory was announced.

The second uncontested race in this year's election saw Zach Fentiman elected as VP (Operations and Finance). Fentiman won by 4314 votes or 83 per cent, and is now entrusted with the SU's \$9.9 million budget for next year.

"[I feel] pretty good. There are great people around here and I'm really looking forward to working with the people who just got elected. Looking forward to getting back to drinking [...] and studying for my midterm tomorrow," he said of his victory.

## Students say "yes" to health dental plan

## Universal opt-out a contentious issue in Flath's groundbreaking insurance policy

KIRSTEN GORUK  
Deputy News Editor

This year's only referendum question, which saw students vote in support of an undergraduate health and dental plan, passed with 80 per cent favour out of a total of 4531 votes cast. The plan, which had no opposing side in the election, will have a universal opt-out option and will cost students \$192.35 annually for its first two years.

"I'm pretty excited. It's the fourth time it's been done. If it didn't win this time, it was never really going to win here," said Kristen Flath, the "Yes" side representative.

The plan is offered by Quebec-based company Studentcare.net/works, and provides coverage for prescription drugs, medical services and equipment, dental care, and vision care, and also offers tuition and travel insurance.

Three prior referenda have gone to the undergraduate ballot, but the lack of a universal opt-out option in the previous plans ultimately led to their demise.

According to the new plan's contract, students will be able to opt out during an annual three-week period in September.

## APIRG BOD RESULTS

The Alberta Public Interest Research Group (APIRG) also held its annual election for its board of directors this week. Although the board consists of nine members, this year only saw five candidates run for the positions. As per APIRG bylaws, the remaining vacancies can be filled either through a by-election or unanimous resolution of the board of directors.

The following representatives have been elected to this year's APIRG board of directors:

- Justin Benko
- Brennan Blomm
- Sahro Osman
- Aditya Rao
- Rafael Sumaling

—Mike Kendrick, Editor-in-Chief

## STREETERS election night

As you may be aware, the Students' Union will soon be relinquishing the Powerplant to the University, making this the last election night party at Dewey's.

## Where would you hold the elections night party next year?

Dave Cournoyer  
Vice President  
(External),  
2006-07Patrick Wisheu  
Chief Returning  
Officer, 2008-09Janelle Morin  
President,  
2008-09Michael Janz  
Just can't let go

"I think the conventional answer is RATT, since it's the other SU-owned bar. But I think holding it off campus, somewhere like the Empress, or the Black Dog would be good."

"The Butterdome, because you can fit like 3000 people in there. [Would 3000 people care enough to go?] If I give them free drinks, then they'll show up!"

"We will never surrender the Powerplant!"

"I'm the SU president! One day, this was me! Two years ago, and I'm still living it, God help me! [crying] I won! I won! [more crying] I don't know! I don't even know which SU I belong to!"



# Mathewson takes presidential contest with third-round win



GLORY FOR KORY Mathewson celebrates his electoral victory with campaign volunteers Thursday night at Dewey's.

JENNIFER HUYGEN  
Senior News Editor  
SEAN STEELS  
News Staff

The four-way race for Students' Union President came to a close Thursday night when early favourite Kory Mathewson pulled ahead of his fellow competitors in a hard-fought third-round victory.

Mathewson received 53 per cent of the vote in the final round of the preferential ballot system, beating out environmental economics student Jesse Hahn by 1230 votes. Hahn took 29 per cent of the final ballot while current SU Associate Vice President (Academic) Craig Turner placed third with 18 per cent.

Rounding out the pack in fourth place was this year's most unconventional candidate Mustapha Makhdoom, who was reportedly entered unwittingly into the race by a friend and ended up winning nine per cent of votes in the first round.

Upon hearing the news, Mathewson, a former SU councillor and member of the Engineering Students' Society, was subdued, but enjoyed heartfelt congratulatory hugs from his girlfriend and campaign manager.

"I'm excited, I'm ecstatic, I can't wait to get into it and start transitioning with

the current board," Mathewson said. "But tonight's all about the volunteers, letting them know I support them and I just appreciate all the work they've done for me."

Mathewson maintained a solid lead throughout the voting process, accumulating 46 per cent of the first round ballot and 49 per cent in the second round, which saw Makhdoom eliminated from the race.

**"Tonight's all about the volunteers, letting them know I support them, and I just appreciate all the work they've done for me."**

KORY MATHEWSON  
SU PRESIDENT-ELECT

Despite coming in last place, Makhdoom, who was absent for the results, used the opportunity to raise student awareness about the undergraduate elections, especially voter turnout.

"The loss doesn't bug me as much as the fact that only [about] ten per cent of the school comes out and votes," Makhdoom said. "I'm happy. I think

every candidate was good. Students got what they wanted, but I still wish we could see more voters out at the stands."

Even with the introduction of online voting for this year's executive race, turnout remained low, with only 5703 students—approximately 20 per cent of the undergraduate population—casting their vote.

In one of the biggest upsets of the race, Turner scraped through the first round with just over 200 votes more than Makhdoom, finishing 513 votes behind Hahn in the third round.

Although the former Chief Returning Officer was surprised by the results, he remained composed and congratulated his opponents on a respectable campaign.

"I ran the race that I could. I had a great team to run it with. Really, that's all I can ask for. The voters made their decision and I respect that," he remarked.

"You wonder how much harder you could have pushed yourself to get that one last vote. But in the end, I'm proud of how I did—I'm proud of how my campaign did, and I'm proud of how all the campaigns did."

Hahn, who was also absent for the announcement of the results, offered his congratulations to Mathewson but declined further comment.

## BY THE NUMBERS






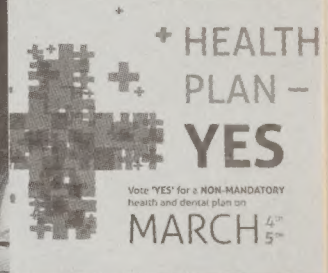
A roundup of election stats

- 5703 Total ballots cast
- 930 Ballots cast at official polling stations
- 4773 Ballots cast elsewhere
- 20.4% Total voter turnout
- 31.5% Turnout from most-active faculty (Faculté Saint-Jean)
- 7.8% Turnout from least-active faculty (Nursing)
- \$517.<sup>92</sup> Cost of most expensive campaign (Kory Mathewson)
- \$10.<sup>50</sup> Cost of least expensive campaign (Leah Trueblood)
- \$185.<sup>75</sup> Total cost of fines levied by the CRO
- 8 Number of CRO rulings
- 2 Number of rulings that were overturned
- 5 Number of times the CRO left SUB during the two-week campaign
- 9 Number of (reported) technical errors with online voting
- 4 Number of errors that turned out to be grad students trying to vote in the undergrad election
- 120 Number of Nerf gun rounds fired defending the Gateway office from SU hack invaders.
- 57 Number of Twitter users following @chudleighvotes
- 237 Number of updates posted by @chudleighvotes

Figures are accurate as of 5 March, 2009, and are not officially confirmed by the CRO

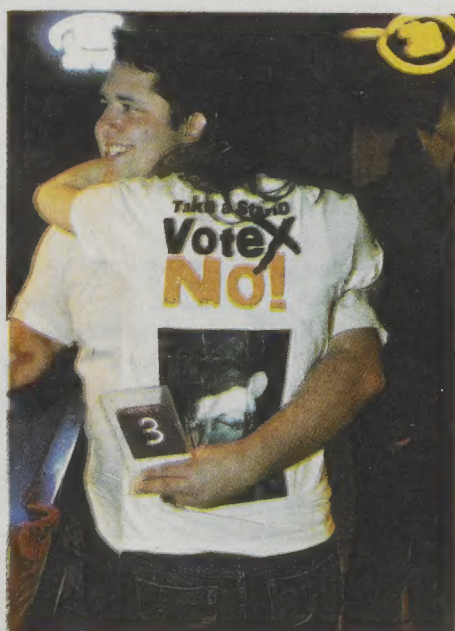
## @uofavotes2009

### SU ELECTION RESULTS

					
Kory Mathewson PRESIDENT	Leah Trueblood VP (ACADEMIC)	Zach Fentiman VP (OPS-FI)	Beverly Eastham VP (EXTERNAL)	Nick Dehod VP (STUDENT LIFE)	Health Plan REFERENDUM
VICTORY IN THREE ROUNDS 2678 votes received out of 5061 votes cast (53%)	VICTORY IN ONE ROUND 4319 votes received out of 5224 votes cast (83%)	VICTORY IN ONE ROUND 4314 votes received out of 5168 votes cast (83%)	VICTORY IN TWO ROUNDS 2616 votes received out of 4800 votes cast (55%)	VICTORY IN TWO ROUNDS 2728 votes received out of 4916 votes cast (55%)	PASSED 4531 votes received out of 5686 votes cast (80%)



## ELECTION NIGHT IN PHOTOS



## EDITOR-IN-CHIEF &amp; PUBLISHER

The Gateway is accepting applications for the position of Editor-in-Chief and Publisher for the 2009/2010 publishing year. The term runs from 1 May 2009 to 30 April 2010 and pays \$2018.78/mo\*. Applicants must plan to be enrolled at the U of A in at least one class per semester for the 2008/2009 school year; must be available to work varying hours; must have computer and layout skills; and will preferably have been a Gateway editor, or possess equivalent leadership and editorial experience.\*\* Applicants should submit a covering letter, resumé and a portfolio to Gateway Business Manager (Asia Szkudlarek, 492-6669, biz@gateway.ualberta.ca) by noon on Friday, 6 March 2009. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for interviews.

## LINE EDITORS

The Gateway is accepting applications for the following line editor positions\*\* for the 2009/2010 publishing year:

MANAGING EDITOR  
SENIOR NEWS EDITOR  
DEPUTY NEWS EDITOR  
OPINION EDITOR  
SPORTS EDITOR  
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR  
PHOTO EDITOR  
DESIGN & PRODUCTION EDITOR  
ONLINE EDITOR

THE GATEWAY IS  
HIRING!

All terms run from 1 May 2009 to 30 April 2010. The full-time paid portion of the job runs from mid-August to the end of April. Four issues of the Gateway will be produced over the summer months. All line editors will be expected to train on at least three of the four summer issues (unless granted leave by the hiring committee) for an honorarium of \$100/issue. In their full-time capacities, the salaries for each position are as follows: Managing and Senior News will receive \$1625.43\* per month, all other line editors will receive \$1281.88\* per month. Please note that candidates may apply for no more than two (2) positions, except by special dispensation of the Line Editor Selection Committee. Applicants should submit a covering letter, resumé and portfolio to Gateway Business Manager (Asia Szkudlarek, 780-492-6669, biz@gateway.ualberta.ca) by noon on Friday, 13 March 2009. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for interviews.

\*\* Complete job descriptions (subject to change) are available at [www.gateway.ualberta.ca/mjs](http://www.gateway.ualberta.ca/mjs)